



09-12-02

1723
#2
BT
9-19-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : John C. Vellinger, et al

TITLE OF INVENTION : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MIXING SMALL VOLUMES OF LIQUID

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. : 10/084,136

FILING DATE : February 27, 2002

PRIORITY DATE : February 28, 2001

EXAMINER :

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 10561.117936

RECEIVED
SEP 16 2002
TC 1700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 11, 2002

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this Statement in accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98. This statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), before the mailing of a first Office Action.

Attached hereto is Form PTO/SB/08A (a substitute for 1449A/PTO) listing documents which may be relevant to the subject application. In accordance with MPEP § 609, it is respectfully requested that these documents be considered by the examiner, and initialed as such.

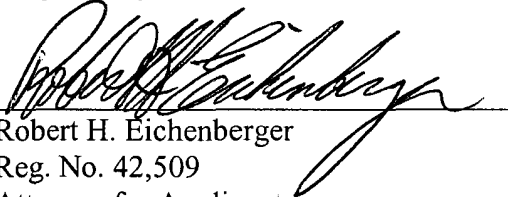
In accordance with §1.97(g), this Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made. Similarly, in accordance with §1.97(h), this Statement should not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, valid prior art or material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

APPLICANTS : John C. Vellinger, et al
TITLE OF INVENTION : APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MIXING SMALL VOLUMES OF
LIQUID
APPLICATION SER. NO.: 10/084,136
FILING DATE : 02/27/02
PRIORITY DATE : 02/28/01
EXAMINER :

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedures § 609. If for any reason the examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be called so that any deficiencies can be remedied.

September 11, 2002

Respectfully submitted,


Robert H. Eichenberger
Reg. No. 42,509
Attorney for Applicants

FROST BROWN TODD LLC
120 West Spring Street, Suite 400
New Albany, IN 47150
Phone: 502-568-0361
Fax: 502-581-1087

10561.117936
NWAIMDMS/12227.1



RULE 1.10 CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that the following documents:

Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages)
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO/SB/08A)
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO/SB/08B)
U.S. Patent No. 6,435,706
U.S. Patent No. 5,901,779
U.S. Patent No. 5,547,280
U.S. Patent No. 5,533,804
U.S. Patent No. D360,037
U.S. Patent No. D358,659
U.S. Patent No. 4,911,555
U.S. Patent No. 4,759,635
Copy of article from Variomag.com (2 pages)
Copy of article from Variomag.com (2 pages)
Copy of article from Variomag.com (2 pages)
Copy of article from Laboratoryequipment.com (2 pages)
Copy of publication by Lon Alterman (1 page)
Copy of article from Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials (9 pages)
Copy of article from Separation and Purification Methods (52 pages)
Article from Spacebound 2000 Conference (11 pages)
Copy of portion of thesis by Martin R. Guinn (25 pages)
Return Postcard

RECEIVED
SEP 16 2002
TC 1700

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage paid as Express Mail, Post Office to Addressee, in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

on September 11, 2002.

Printed name of person signing this certificate: Ellen L. Crandall

Signature: Ellen L. Crandall



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/084,136		
		Filing Date	February 27, 2002		
		First Named Inventor	John C. Vellinger		
		Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	10561.117936

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ²	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ³ (if known)			
	A	US- 6,435,706	08-20-2002	Bertolotti, et al	RECEIVED SEP 16 2002 TC 1700
	B	US- 5,901,779	05-11-1999	Eidinger, et al	
	C	US- 5,547,280	08-20-1996	Wanninger, et al	
	D	US- 5,533,804	07-09-1996	Larsson, et al	
	E	US- D360,037	07-04-1995	Markle, et al	
	F	US- D358,659	05-23-1995	Rohrabacher	
	G	US- 4,911,555	03-27-1990	Saffer, et al	
	H	US- 4,759,635	07-26-1988	MacMichael, et al	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ²	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



PTO/SB/08B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

+

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/084,136		
		Filing Date	February 27, 2002		
		First Named Inventor	John C. Vellingner		
		Group Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	10561-117936

RECEIVED

SEP 16 2002

TC 1700

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ²	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	I	Multiple and Test Tube Stirring Drives, Remote-Controlled Magnetic Stirring System, Variomag.com, 8/29/02, 2 pages USA	
	J	Single Stirring Drives for Small to Medium Stirring Volumes, Remote-Controlled Magnetic Stirring Systems, Variomag.com, 8/29/02, 2 pages, USA	
	K	The Variomag Concept, Variomag.com, 8/29/02, 2 pages, USA	
	L	Technology Insights, April 2002, Page 10, Laboratoryequipment.com	
	M	ALTERMAN, LON, A Commodity Evolves- Stirring Hot Plate Designs Abound, R&D Magazine, October 2001, Page 43, USA	
	N	TODD, PAUL, et al, Magnetic Space Shuttle Experiments, Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials, 1999, Pages 96-101, Volume 194, Elsevier Science B.V., The Netherlands	
	O	RAGHAVARAO, K.S.M.S., et al, Recent Developments in Aqueous Two-Phase Extraction in Bioprocessing, Separation and Purification Methods, 1999, Pages 1-49, Volume 27(1), Marcel Dekker, Inc., USA	
	P	VELLINGER, JOHN, Biotechnology Experiments in the "ADSEP" Payload on Space Shuttle Flight STS-95 (1998), Pages 1-10, Canada Space Agency, Canada	
	Q	GUINN, MARTIN ROBERT, Isolation and Purification of Proteins by Single-Stage Metal Affinity Partitioning in Aqueous Two-Phase Systems and by Multi-Stage Counter-Current Distribution, 1996, Pages 137-159, Chapter 7, University of Colorado-Graduate School, USA	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

+